



# ICSEW

## GOVERNOR'S INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE OF STATE EMPLOYED WOMEN

*"To better the lives of state employed women"*

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Department of Transportation

Edna Lucille Goodrich Building, Room 1028

November 10, 2009

8:00 am – 4:30 pm

8:00 – 8:30am

Registration and Networking

8:30 – 8:40am

#### Welcome and Announcements

- Genevieve O'Sullivan (Gen), Chair, called the meeting to order, reviewed the agenda and made announcements:
  - Our first networking event was a huge success; another event will likely be planned for January
  - Members should forward job announcements and resumes to Gen for ICSEW distribution
  - The Other Bank Toiletries Drive began on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and runs through November 30<sup>th</sup>
    - Drive can be extended if need be
    - Donations will be collected and delivered at one time after drive conclusion
  - There are several community involvement opportunities:
    - Darla Mann can give information about involvement with Safe Place
    - Gen can give information about the Lewis County Food Drive, which takes place December 5, 2009
    - Teresa Glidden is planning the 2010 Relay for Life
      - The relay is June 25 – 26, 2010
      - An ICSEW team is already registered, see Teresa if you want to join
      - State agency teams can also be formed, see Teresa for information
      - Friends and family are welcome to participate
- Gen read a quote by Ann Frank: *How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment to improve the world.*
- Gen read a quote by Dolly Parton: *If you want the rainbow you've got to put up with the rain.*

**8:40 – 9:10am**

**Ice Breaker**

- Kristin Reichl (Kris), Vice Chair, requested that everyone introduce themselves with their name, agency, position, and something good that happened during the prior week

**9:00 – 10:05am**

**Guest Speaker**

- Brian Berghoff, Administrator for Deferred Compensation Program at Department of Retirement Systems discussed retirement and deferred compensation
- He explained the history, roles and responsibilities of DRS
- Brian praised DRS for their diversity, work ethic, philosophies, accomplishments and future goals
- He also shared some interesting facts about deferred comp, retirement and savings
  - DB Access estimates retirement benefits and allows you to verify your information and purchase service credits
  - About 2.5 billion dollars are paid out to retirees every year
  - Ninety percent of women will become totally responsible for their financial welfare sometime in their lives
  - When choosing an investment method, pick something you know about
  - The only way to increase American savings is to establish cultural expectations for saving money; starting young is a great way to accumulate financial health
  - DCP contributions start at just \$15 per pay period and are not subject to income tax

**10:05 – 10:20am**

**Break**

**10:20 – 11:45am**

**Guest Speaker**

- Peter Bogdanoff and Jonathan Seib, representatives from the Governor's Office, discussed possible government and healthcare reform
- Governor Gregoire is touring elementary schools today to discuss educational reform
- Governor Gregoire published a presentation about the current budget situation, which is available on her website at [http://www.governor.wa.gov/priorities/budget/budget\\_story.pdf](http://www.governor.wa.gov/priorities/budget/budget_story.pdf)
- Peter and Jonathan shared some interesting facts and projections
  - About 61% of voters know nothing about what is happening in state government
  - Gregoire wants to create an echo chamber and effectively communicate changes to the general public
  - This session's revenues are predicted to be lower than the previous session, and deficits are likely to increase through the 2011-2013 biennium
    - Last session brought a 9 billion dollar reduction

- This session is predicted to bring an additional 1.7–2.5 billion dollar shortfall
    - Small cuts will not be effective, the magnitude of this budget shortfall is significant and signals a financial crisis
- Peter and Jonathan relayed the Governor's sympathy in dealing with the ramifications of fiscal decisions; they also relayed some messages:
  - Governor Gregoire is committed to protecting education
  - Protecting our state's infrastructure, even in the face of program eliminations is of vital importance
  - Encouraging a strong economy is the only way to rise out of this recession
  - Innovative thinking should continue
- Peter and Jonathan entertained questions about possible cuts and the impact to several programs
- The Health Reform Bill that is currently with the Senate was discussed, as well as its potential impact to states should it pass

**11:45am – 12:30pm      Adjourn to Lunch**

**12:30 – 1:35pm      H1N1**

- Cindy Gleason, H1N1 Pan Flu Coordinator for the Department of Health, shared information about influenza and H1N1 (swine flu), including information about symptoms of both illnesses, as well as methods of contamination
- Cindy shared a slideshow
  - Vaccine availability is a hot topic
  - Vaccines for high-risk groups are predicted to arrive by year end; vaccines for remaining population will follow
  - Immunity occurs about two weeks after vaccination
  - Individual counties have discretion as to how they disburse vaccinations through high-risk groups
- DOH website has valuable H1N1 information

**1:35 – 1:50pm      Break**

**1:50 – 2:45pm      Guest Speaker**

- Bonnie Bunning, former Executive Director of Policy and Administration for Department of Natural Resources, discussed her experiences with transition and change

**2:45 – 2:50pm      Member Introduction**

- Gen presented pins to new ICSEW members

**2:50- 3:30pm      Subcommittee Meetings**

- Subcommittees broke out into groups

**3:30 – 4:10pm**

**2010 Policy Watch**

- Kris broke everyone into five groups which were charged with reviewing and ranking current legislative priorities

**4:15 – 4:30pm**

**Wrap-Up**

- Gen will distribute draft mission, vision and goals through ListServ
- PowerPoint presentations from today's speakers will be posted beneath the minutes section on the Meetings page of the Web site
- Gen queried the group for meeting successes and areas for improvement

**4:30pm**

**Meeting adjourned**